

Earth Sciences Consultants, Inc.

One Triangle Lane • Export, Pennsylvania 15632 • Phone: (724) 733-3000 • Fax: (724) 325-3352
Akron, Ohio • Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

April 17, 2001
Project No. 6109A-01

Mr. John J. O'Grady
Remedial Project Manager
Superfund Division (SR-6J)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region V
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, IL 60604-3590

Scheduling Requirements
Agency Plan Reviews and Approvals
Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis
Fansteel Inc.
North Chicago, Illinois Facility

Dear Mr. O'Grady:

As you are aware, by letter dated March 28, 2001, Earth Sciences Consultants, Inc., on behalf of Fansteel Inc. (Fansteel), submitted copies of the Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) Work Plan, Quality Assurance Project Plan, and Health and Safety Plan for Fansteel's North Chicago, Illinois facility to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Region V and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) for review and approval. We understand that the previously submitted Great Lakes Analytical Quality Assurance Programs have been approved for continued use.

As set forth in Figure 3 of the Work Plan (Estimated Schedule for EE/CA Tasks), the additional field investigations were to be initiated during mid-April 2001 and concluded prior to the end of April 2001. The estimated schedule was developed in consideration of the July 12, 2001 deadline for submittal of the draft EE/CA Report to the USEPA, as required by the September 21, 2000 Administrative Order. Because results obtained from the additional field investigations are crucial to the development of the draft EE/CA Report, expedited USEPA and IEPA review and approval of the plans is essential to attaining the required submittal date for the draft report.

We would appreciate your expediting the review and approval process to enable us to meet the schedule set forth in the EE/CA Work Plan. We understand that you are coordinating the receipt of and dissemination of comments/approvals from the USEPA and IEPA. Please let us know if this is incorrect.

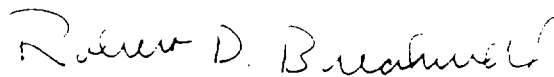
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If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact us at (724) 733-3000.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert D. Breakwell, P.G.
Project Manager



Scott C. Blauvelt, P.G.
President

RDB/SCB:cak

cc: J. Jackson (Fansteel)
T. Krueger (USEPA Region V)
M. Mocniak (Fansteel)
J. Munie (IEPA)
M. Steger (McBride Baker & Coles)